

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, JM

SUBJECT: WORLD BANK AND JAMAICAN DEVELOPMENT

REF: STATE 081007

1. MEETING ON JAMAICAN DEVELOPMENT WITH WORLD BANK VICE
PRESIDENT FOR LATIN AMERICA KRIEGER WAS HELD APRIL 2.
PRESENT IN ADDITION TO KRIEGER WERE JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR
RATTRAY, WORLD BANK EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CLARK, ARA/ECP
DIRECTOR ROGERS AND MEMBERS OF BANK STAFF.

2. MEETING BEGAN WITH DISCUSSION OF JAMAICA'S PROBLEMS
AS INTERMEDIATE DEVELOPING COUNTRY AND U.S. SUGGESTION
THAT BANK CONSIDER FOCUSING AS PILOT PROJECT ON JAMAICAN
URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM. BANK'S STAFF THEN GAVE
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RUNDOWN OF BANK'S CURRENT AND ANTICIPATED PROGRAM IN

JAMAICA.

3. FOLLOWING WERE POSITIVE ELEMENTS THAT EMERGED FROM DISCUSSION:

A. KRIEGER AGREED BANK WOULD HELP GOJ FIND MEANS OF ACCELERATING DISBURSEMENTS PARTICULARLY OF LOANS WITH SUBSTANTIAL LOCAL CURRENCY ELEMENTS, TO HELP REDUCE

LARGE PIPELINE AND PROVIDE BENEFITS TO NEAR-TERM BALANCE OF PAYMENTS.

B. BANK INDICATED SECOND URBAN SITES AND SERVICES PROJECT COULD PROBABLY BE ADVANCED FROM FY 78 TO FY 77, IF GOJ ASSIGNED ADEQUATE MANPOWER IN MINISTRY OF HOUSING TO PROJECT.

C. MOST SIGNIFICANT, KRIEGER AGREED BANK WOULD CONSIDER BROAD AND AMBITIOUS URBAN PROJECT UNDER PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY BANK PRESIDENT McNAMARA LAST YEAR, IF GOJ PUTS FORWARD PROPOSAL THAT SHOWS IT IS CONVINCED OF DESIRABILITY OF SUCH PROJECT AND WILL PUT SUFFICIENT JAMAICAN RESOURCES INTO IT.

4. KRIEGER SUGGESTED U.S. MIGHT ASSIST THROUGH "CO-FINANCING". ROGERS WAS NONCOMMITAL BUT SAID WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE PROJECT AS DEVELOPED BY GOJ.

5. KRIEGER TOLD RATTRAY THAT HE IS PLANNING TO BE IN JAMAICA APRIL 14-15. HE CAUTIONED THAT HIS VISIT SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS INDICATION THAT BANK HAS MADE DECISIONS CONCERNING JAMAICA. NEVERTHELESS, HE INDICATED HE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS URBAN AND OTHER PROPOSALS WITH GOJ. KISSINGER

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